

## NOTES ON PLACES OF INTEREST IN ABERCORN DISTRICT

### KALAMBO FALLS

The Kalambo Falls are situated on the boundary of Northern Rhodesia and Tanganyika and are the eleventh highest falls in the world with a height of 714 feet. Near the Kalambo Falls is an interesting archaeological site where diggings have taken place recently by the Rhodes Livingstone Institute under the supervision of Dr. Clarke, C.B.E., where many interesting specimens of stone-age implements were found.

### TANGANYIKA VICTORIA MEMORIAL INSTITUTE

The building in which the Commission will take evidence was founded in 1902 as a memorial for Queen Victoria. The present building stands on the original site and was constructed in 1950. The incorporation of the name "Tanganyika" comes from the fact that this was originally the Tanganyika Province of Northern Rhodesia. It is a cultural institution intended to support and develop the cultural activities in Abercorn. At the present time it incorporates a library and the hall is used as a cinema for various shows. There is museum of local historical interest, and amongst other things there is the propeller of the first motor vessel to be launched on Lake Tanganyika in 1884, that of the Mission ship "The Good News". There is also the ensign of the gunboat H.M.S. "Tifi", which operated on Lake Tanganyika during the 1914 to 1918 war, and many old photographs and articles relating to the early days of Abercorn.

### INTERNATIONAL RED LOCUST CONTROL SERVICE

Abercorn is the Headquarters of the International Red Locust Control Service which was established by International Convention signed in 1949. The contributing Governments are as follows:-

High Commission Territories  
Kenya  
The Federation of Rhodesia  
and Nyasaland  
Tanganyika  
Uganda  
Belgian Congo  
South Africa  
Portuguese East Africa and Mocambique

Its function is the control of the red locust in its scheduled outbreak areas of Mweru-Ngongos, the Rukwa Valley and Malagarasi. The Headquarters of the Organisation are situated in Abercorn and the present Director is Mr. C. du Plessis. The Service is governed by its Council on which the contributing Governments are represented. There is an Executive Committee appointed at the Annual General Meeting.

There is an establishment of 39 Europeans, some of whom live in the Rukwa Valley, and 251 Africans. The estimated expenditure for the present financial year is £150,000, contributed on a percentage basis from the Governments outlined above. The establishment is made up of Scientific Officers and Technical Officers and there is an efficient mechanical organisation /

organisation in Abercorn with bases in the Rukwa Valley. The Service possesses two aircraft which are used to control any outbreaks of locusts.

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, ABERCORN

The building was designed by Mr. Owen Abel of the London Missionary and was commenced in 1950 and completed in 1955.

There are many items of interest, amongst them being the organ which was presented by Mrs. Keigwin, wife of the Commissioner for Rural Development, in memory of her parents who were missionaries in Northern Rhodesia, and were stationed for a long time at Kambole in this District. The round stained glass window was designed and donated by Sir Frank Salisbury, K.C.V.O. The church furnishings are from bombed London churches and consist of lectern, two seats for officiating people and a large bible, two brass candlesticks, a missal holder and a holder for hymn numbers. The silver gilt christening bowl was given by Mr. & Mrs. D.A. Ogilvie, one-time Cadet in Abercorn, in memory of their infant son Justin. The bowl is by Omar Ramsden.

ABERCORN BOMA.

The District of Abercorn was started by Mr. H.G. Marshall, Administrator, in 1893. He received his instructions to proceed to this part of the world from Zomba and it was suggested that he should set up his headquarters at a place called Zombe. As this was likely to be confused with Zomba he was instructed by Mr. H.H. Johnston, H.M. Commissioner Consul General at Zomba, to call the station Abercorn after the Duke of Abercorn then president of the B.S.A. Company. The present station is within 10 miles of the site at which he was told to start.

The African Lakes Corporation started trading in Abercorn District in about 1889.

The present Boma is on the third site and was started in 1912. The only building that still stands is the prison which was built in that year. The next oldest building is the present District Commissioner's house which was constructed in 1919, although it has been considerably altered since those days.

Abercorn District covers an area of 7,400 square miles made up as follows:

- Native Reserve - 3,300 square miles
- Native Trust Land - 2,800 square miles
- Crown Land - 700 square miles
- Lake Tanganyika - 600 square miles.

There are two townships in the District gazetted under the Townships Ordinance - Abercorn and Mpulungu. Mpulungu is at present the only port in Northern Rhodesia. The "Lieba", carrying general cargo and bulk supplies of petrol to the Northern Province, calls at Mpulungu once every fortnight from Kigoma in Tanganyika. The "Lieba" was first launched on Lake Tanganyika at the beginning of the First World War; she was built in Germany and was scuttled off the mouth of the Malagarasi River in July 1916. After the war she was raised by the Tanganyika Government, reconditioned and refitted at a cost of £49,600 and made her first voyage on the 16th May, 1927. She is 220 feet long /

long with a breadth of 33 feet and a 9 foot draft and tonnage of 793 tons. She went out of service at the end of 1950, returning again in December 1952 and then once again went out of action in 1954. Whenever she is out of action her place is taken by the S.S. "Mwanza" which was brought from Lake Victoria and put into service on Lake Tanganyika on the 17th April, 1923. She replaced the "Fifi" which had been brought by the British Forces to Lake Tanganyika during the First World War. "Fifi" was sunk with full honours on the 19th October 1924.

Importations into Mpulungu have increased considerably over recent years and the consumption of fuel in the last year has been responsible for most of this. There has been an increase in consumption over the last twelve months of 25%.

At Mpulungu there are two National Monuments. The first of these is Niamukolo Church which was built in 1894 by the L.M.S. who commenced operations in this area in 1880. It is said that the Mission closed in 1887 and moved to a site in the Fwambo area of Chief Nwanba until 1890, when it moved to the present site at Kawimbe. The second National Monument has been placed at Mpulungu to record the Mission ship "Good News" which was launched in the Lower Lufubu River in 1883. This vessel was sold by the Mission to the African Lakes Corporation in 1895. The remains of the "Good News" are near the mouth of the Lunzuwa River where it was beached at the end of the last war.

#### MISSIONS

1. Niamukolo (L.M.S.) See above.
2. Kawimbe Founded on the present site 11 miles from Abercorn on the old Sunbawanga Road in 1890. The original church was built in 1892 but replaced in 1952. There is a school up to Standard VI, a Mission hospital supervised by a European nursing sister, and a Lepar Settlement catering for about 75 patients, which was started in 1922. The Mission received an annual grant from the Federal Government for the running of the hospital and the leper colony.
3. Kanbole Founded in 1892 and had a resident European missionary until 1948. It is now in charge of an African minister and has a large church and a school catering for children of Standards III and IV.
4. Senga Hill Founded in 1923 and has a resident European missionary. There is a school catering for children up to Standard VI, and until recently there was an agricultural training school, started in 1932, to cater for the training of African teachers.
5. Mambwe Mission (White Fathers) The present Mission was started in 1930 and is sited 8 miles off the Abercorn - Tunduma Road. There is a school catering for children to Standard V and a very large cathedral. This Mission and Kayambe Mission, in the Kasama District, replaced the old Mambwe Mission which was founded in 1894 on a site near the present Mambwe Mission.
6. St. Paul's Mission Was founded in 1948 and is situated 3 miles from Abercorn. There is a comparatively large trade school catering at the moment for bricklayers and carpenters.

7. Kaenle Mission This is a comparatively recent acquisition and is at the moment the Bishop's residence and the headquarters of the Vicariate. The future of this site is uncertain because the White Fathers are about to commence building in Abercorn township.